

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

ACTION COPY

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EUR By HRM/SG, NARA, Date 3/12/96

Classification

Control: 13102

Rec'd: NOVEMBER 24, 1958
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RMR

FROM: BERLIN

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TO: Secretary of State

NO: 380, NOVEMBER 23, 8 P.M.

PRIORITY.

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SENT PRIORITY BONN 334, DEPARTMENT 380, REPEATED INFORMATION
POLAD USAREUR 117, MOSCOW 109, LONDON 42, PARIS 56.

PARIS ALSO PASS USCINCEUR THURSTON AND WEST.

OCB
CIA
OSD
ARMY
NAVY
AIR
NIC

WE ARE FIRMLY CONVINCED THAT CURRENT INSTRUCTIONS WHICH
PERMIT TURNOVER OF ALLIED TRAVEL DOCUMENTS TO GDR CHECKPOINT
OFFICIALS (OURTEL 298 TO BONN, 345 TO DEPT) WOULD BE INTERPRETED
AS SIGN OF WEAKNESS BOTH BY WEST BERLIN AND MOSCOW. WEST
BERLIN CONFIDENCE IN THE ALLIES WOULD BE SERIOUSLY SHAKEN BY
SUCH ACTION, PARTICULARLY IN BUSINESS CIRCLES (OURTEL 325
TO BONN, 371 TO DEPT). ANY APPARENT ACQUIESCENCE IN ANNOUNCED
SOVIET MOVES WOULD RAISE GDR PRESTIGE AND WOULD CONVINCE EAST
GERMANS AND SOVS THEY ARE ON RIGHT TRACK FORCE US OUT OF BERLIN.

WE BELIEVE CLEAR AND FIRM STAND AT OUTSET EVEN IF IT NECESSITATES
SUPPLYING THREE ALLIED GARRISON BY AIR WOULD HAVE LIFTING EFFECT
ON WEST BERLINERS, GIVE CLEAR INDICATION TO SOVS WE DO NOT RPT
NOT INTEND YIELD, AND PROVIDE WEST WITH CONTINUING PROPAGANDA
ISSUE WHICH IN LONG RUN SOVS MIGHT FIND EMBARRASSING. MILITARY
ESTIMATES ARE THAT GARRISON AIRLIFT OF 100 TONS DAILY, OF WHICH
US SHARE WOULD BE 46 TONS, WOULD SUFFICE. GARRISON AIRLIFT
WOULD BE DRAMATIC BUT RELATIVELY INEXPENSIVE DEMONSTRATION
OF ALLIED DETERMINATION.

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